

grance from the first and second reservoirs from contacting the contents of the lateral compartments 96. Alternatively, the lateral compartments, or other compartments within the container body, may have their own compartment covers and channels or recesses containing additional fragrance reservoirs.

In many instances, containers are used to hold objects or substances which emit unpleasant odors. These odors may derive from human or animal wastes, excrement, tissues, fluids or gasses; garbage, trash or food waste; products of decay or decomposition, cleaning products or solvents, substances used in manufacturing processes, products of combustion or other objects or substances. More specific examples of contained items and containers which are contemplated in the present invention include wastes from medical procedures, soiled diaper containers, dirty laundry hampers, containers for shoes or athletic gear, cat litter boxes, garbage or trash, laundry detergents or similar cleaning products, fishing tackle boxes and ash trays.

In all cases in which the odor released is objectionable, it is desirable to "mask" or otherwise disguise the objectionable odor with a pleasant or neutral fragrance when the container is opened. During the time that the container is closed, the fragrance reservoir is also closed since the container's objectionable odors are confined to the interior of the container and are thus not readily detectable. By contrast, when the container is opened, either partly or completely, the objectionable odor can escape into the surroundings and the masking fragrance is simultaneously released to disguise and camouflage the objectionable odor.

As shown in FIGS. 22-26, a container 110 for holding, e.g., dirty laundry, trash, waste products, cigarette ashes, etc., includes a cover 112 preferably pivotally attached to the container 110. A front wall 114 of the container 110 has a channel or recess 116 holding a fragrance reservoir 118. With the cover 112 closed, as shown in FIGS. 21 and 26, the fragrance reservoir 118 is substantially sealed from the interior of the container and from the environment. The degree of sealing provided may vary with the application, from the seal provided simply by the cover resting over the front wall, to a more substantial seal using rubber surfaces, etc. With the cover 112 open, as shown in FIGS. 23-25, the fragrance reservoir 118 is unsealed and fragrance escapes from the reservoir 118 to mask or neutralize unpleasant odors emanating from the contents of the container 110.

As shown in FIGS. 27-32, the fragrance reservoir may optionally be provided in a recess or channel in the container lid. The fragrance reservoir may be secured in the lid (or to the container body itself) using the posts and other retaining means previously shown and described. Similarly, the container 110 may include fragrance reservoir in both the lid and container body.

Thus, although several embodiments have been shown and described, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that many modifications can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. It will also be apparent that the various features of the various embodiments may be used separately or in combination with each other. The invention, therefore, should not be restricted except by the following claims.

I claim:

1. A fragrance emitting container comprising:
 - a container body substantially enclosing a container space;

- a channel in the container body;
- a fragrance reservoir containing a fragrance positioned in the channel; and
- a container lid pivotably attached to the container body, the container lid movable from a closed position wherein the container lid covers the container space and at least partially seals the fragrance reservoir, to an open position wherein the container space and fragrance reservoir are uncovered such that fragrance can disperse from the channel.

2. The fragrance emitting container of claim 1 further comprising a seal on at least one of the container lid and container body for sealing the channel when the lid is in the closed position.

3. The fragrance emitting container of claim 1 further comprising:

- a subcontainer within the container body substantially enclosing a subcontainer space;
- a subcontainer fragrance reservoir supported on the subcontainer; and
- a subcontainer lid pivotably attached to the container body, the subcontainer lid movable from a closed position wherein the subcontainer lid covers and at least partially seals off the subcontainer space and the subcontainer fragrance reservoir, to an open position wherein the subcontainer space and subcontainer fragrance reservoir are uncovered.

4. A fragrance emitting container comprising:

- a container body substantially enclosing a container space;
- a container lid pivotably attached to the container body;
- a fragrance reservoir containing a fragrance positioned in a recess in the container lid, the container lid movable from a closed position wherein the recess is at least partially sealed off, to an open position wherein recess is open such that fragrance can disperse from the channel.

5. A fragrance emitting container comprising:

- a container body substantially enclosing a container space;
- a channel in the container body;
- a fragrance reservoir containing a fragrance in the channel; and
- a container lid removably positionable onto the container body, the container lid covering and at least partially sealing the channel when positioned on the container body, and the channel open to the container space when the container lid is removed from the container body, thereby allowing the fragrance to disperse.

6. The fragrance emitting container of claim 5 further comprising:

- a subcontainer within the container body substantially enclosing a subcontainer space;
- a subcontainer fragrance reservoir supported on the subcontainer; and
- a subcontainer lid removably positionable onto the subcontainer body, the subcontainer lid movable from a closed position wherein the subcontainer lid covers and at least partially seals off the subcontainer space and the subcontainer fragrance reservoir, to an open position wherein the subcontainer space and subcontainer fragrance reservoir are uncovered.

7. A fragrance emitting container comprising: